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pread; but our means are quite insufficient for the work to be done, and we ask the prompt and liberal aid of our friends.

We would just add, that every minister preaching on peace, and taking up a collection for our Society, becomes thereby a member for the year, and is entitled, without charge, to our periodical. So is the President of every Auxiliary Society, as also the Chairman of every Committee of Correspondence. One half of every collection or donation may be returned in the publications of our Society for the use of the donors, or for gratuitous distribution. Every member, made such either by the payment of two dollars a year, or for life by twenty dollars at one time, is expected to receive our periodical, which we send also, if desired, to every occasional donor of one dollar or more.

Now, let us ask the friends of God and man if they cannot all aid us in some of these ways? There are few that could not, if they only thought so, send us each a single dollar, while multitudes might forward their two dollars each, and others twenty dollars or more. In what way can you spend to better purpose a portion of the wealth which God has entrusted to your care and distribution? Make it a question of conscience, and inquire of your Heavenly Father, the God of Peace, of your Saviour, the Prince of Peace, what he would have you do for this blessed cause.

From the Rev. TITUS COAN, one of our most devoted and energetic missionaries in the Sandwich Islands, we have a long and glowing letter, which we regret our inability to insert here as a powerful enforcement of the above plea. He has given us deeds as well as words, by forwarding us several donations from his *native* church, in one instance *a hundred dollars*. Will not some of our own rich churches do likewise?

PEACE PETITIONS TO CONGRESS.

THOSE who are familiar with the proceedings of the late Peace Congress in London, must have observed with how much satisfaction the more thoughtful friends of peace there received the report of efforts made in this country to bring before our rulers the great practical question of superseding the alleged necessity of war by peaceful substitutes, and our success in securing their favorable attention especially to our plan of **STIPULATED ARBITRATION**, or a definite provision by treaty for the settlement of all future misunderstandings between ourselves and other nations by reference to umpires mutually chosen.

Here is the simple and feasible substitute for war which we wish to press anew on the attention of Congress and the Executive. Not a few anticipate, sooner or later, the establishment of a **CONGRESS OF NATIONS** as the grand ultimatum of a thoroughly Christian civilization applied to the intercourse of nations; but Stipulated Arbitration is all we can secure for a long time to come, and will doubtless prove, if adopted in good faith, equally ef-

fective in preventing actual wars, and eminently useful in preparing the way for some form of an international tribunal, analagous to what has been provided for themselves by our Confederacy of thirty-one Sovereign States. The war system is upheld as an Arbiter of Justice between Nations for the accomplishment of objects clearly important ; and they will of course retain and use it until its supposed necessity is in fact obviated by other means that shall *peacefully* secure its *legitimate* purposes far better than the sword ever did or ever can. Such a substitute is Stipulated Arbitration, or a provision in treaties for the settlement of all international disputes by reference to umpires.

Now, we wish to urge this Christian measure on the attention of our rulers *by petitions*. We can expect them to take hold of it in earnest only in response to a strong, general demand from the people ; and hence we would request the friends of peace through the whole country, without distinction of sect or party, to unite with us in petitioning *both* Houses of Congress.

Permit us, then, to solicit your prompt and zealous co-operation for this purpose. Having no agents to send forth on this errand, we are obliged, as indeed we choose, to depend almost entirely on your spontaneous efforts in obtaining the requisite number of petitions. If you will just copy the subjoined form of petition, and either yourself solicit, or get somebody else to procure signatures to it in your place, it can all be done up at once with ease and success. There should be *two* petitions, one for each House of Congress, both subscribed by every petitioner, and then forwarded, the one for the Senate to a Senator from your own State, and the other for the House to the Representative from your District, with a letter requesting his prompt and special attention to the subject, unless you choose for particular reasons to entrust it to some other member of the Senate or the House, in which case you can send that for the Senate to Hon. W. H. SEWARD, J. UNDERWOOD, or CHARLES SUMNER, and that for the House to Hon. AMOS TUCK, J. R. GIDDINGS, or O. FOWLER, either of whom would cheerfully attend to it aright.

As we are obliged in the cause of peace to rely so much on the Press and the Pulpit, we trust we shall not be deemed unreasonable in soliciting Editors, more especially those of religious papers, to lay our requests before their readers, and Ministers of the Gospel to commend the object to their people, and secure, as could easily be done in almost every case, properly qualified persons to circulate petitions for signatures.

To the Honorable Senate and House of Representatives of the United States :

The undersigned, citizens of _____ in the State of _____, deploring the great and manifold evils of war, and believing it possible to supersede its alleged necessity, as an Arbiter of Justice among Nations, by the timely adoption of wise and feasible substitutes, respectfully petition your Honorable Bodies to take such action as you may deem best for this most desirable end, by "securing in our treaties with other nations, a provision for referring to the decision of umpires all misunderstandings that cannot be satisfactorily adjusted by amicable negotiation."

THE COMMITTEE OF REFERENCE—chosen by our Society to inquire into “the course pursued by the executive officers for years past,” have given the subject a patient investigation, and prepared their report, but were directed in the vote appointing them, to present it at the next annual meeting, before which time it cannot of course be made public. Meanwhile, “the executive officers,” unwilling in the interim to pursue any measures not fully approved by the above Committee, requested to be distinctly informed “whether they recommend that we continue for substance our present course,” and have received, for use at their discretion, a reply, signed by all the members present, being a majority of the whole twelve, in which they advise no change, but say, “they are fully convinced that all contributions to the cause of peace have been strictly and directly devoted to promote its interests. *They would earnestly request the friends of peace to aid the American Peace Society by their influence and contributions, and not to be deterred from doing this by any complaints that may have reached them.*”

☞ As every obstruction to the most zealous support of our Society by the friends of peace is thus removed, we trust they will now generously render the aid we so much need, especially in consequence of the obstacles thrown in our way since our last anniversary. We ask, and trust we shall receive, their sympathy and liberal support in our earnest endeavors to meet the wide and increasing claims upon us in behalf of the great cause entrusted to our management. Let them not forget that we can do no more than they give us the means of doing.

☞ We shall send this No. to some persons not subscribers, more especially Ministers of the Gospel, whose particular attention we solicit to the requests made on page 185, respecting *Annual Efforts for Peace* and *Petitions to Congress*. We trust they will not fail to comply with those requests. The petitions, if sent any time in January next, will be in season.

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